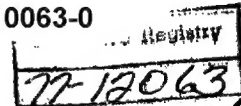


CONFIDENTIAL



OLC 77-5748
30 December 1977

FOIA

7 JAN 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Morning Meeting Participants

FROM:

[Redacted]
Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT:

Amendments to the Freedom of
Information Act

1. (C) In a recent meeting with the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the Director expressed serious concern about the impact of the Freedom of Information Act on Agency activities, not only from the standpoint of the man-hours involved in record searches, reviews, appeals and litigation, but more importantly from the standpoint of the impact which FOIA disclosures were having in the aggregate on our relationships with foreign intelligence services and cooperating individuals.

2. (C) Chairman Inouye was both sympathetic and receptive to the Director's concerns and suggested that we draft proposed amendments to the Freedom of Information Act which might resolve some of these problems. This office is currently assessing the impact of FOIA and working on possible amendatory language. An essential part of this process is the argumentation to go with amendatory language stating the impact of the FOIA and giving examples of the difficulties which we have experienced as a result of it.

3. (C) I am aware that there are some differences of opinion as to whether or not FOIA has in fact has a negative or harmful impact on Agency activities and operations. With this in mind I would appreciate receiving your comments and suggestions plus any documentation you can give on your position on this subject by 15 January 1978.

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